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General Summary of News.

ASIA.

As there have been no arrivals from Europe since our last, we embrace the opportunity which this interval offers, of giving to our Friends, the intelligence brought us by Letters from the interior, and by the Gazettes of the other Presidencies last received; and if it wounds the pride or excites the envy and jealousy of others, to find that our sources are more abundant and more authentic than their own,—we can only leave them to the consolation of having themselves considerably hastened the accomplishment of this desirable end, by the very means through which they had vainly hoped to destroy or interrupt them.

Boondee.—Letters from the 1st Battalion of the 1st Regiment of N. I. on their march from Neemutch to Muttra, left them at this station, in Latitude 25° 26' North, on the 29th of November. Their route had lain through a country scarcely even traversed except by Brinjaries, so that in the last new Map of India by Arrowsmith, it is almost a blank. Our Correspondents say that in the course of their march, they passed several places of great military strength and consequence. Their halt at Boondee, having extended to two whole days, the latitude of this place was correctly ascertained by two good meridian altitudes of the sun. The reason of their halt here was to procure carriages, the camels taken with them having died and become broken down with fatigue, in consequence of the badness of the roads, and the general aspect of the country.

Boondee is described to be a very large place, seated between two hills, and its site is badly selected, one of our Correspondents observes, for defence. He adds that in this particular, it resembles most of the positions in Hindoostan, the weak points of which are immediately seen by an experienced military observer.

The stations of the route from Neemutch to Boondee are thus given, in the order of succession, the distance between each being noted in coss.

From Neemutch to Jacont 4. To Kurrera, through the Jarro-poor Passes 4. To Jhaut, 5. To Bheegoo, 5. To Seeneriah 5. To Gunnawlee, near Mundelghur, 5. To Sampoor, 5. To Jeringhee, near Kuua, 3. To Ghooda, through a narrow Pass, 6. To Boondee 4½.

The names of these places, which are all new to us, we have transcribed as accurately as the Letters will admit of our decyphering them, tho' their orthography may perhaps be not quite correct. The largest of these places are said to be Jhaut, Bheegoo, and Mundelghur, which last is stated to be very conspicuous, and to be seen from a great distance, notwithstanding which, neither of them are in Arrowsmith's Map.

We are promised by one of our Correspondents a Sketch of this unknown portion of the Country, and we shall be happy to make so good a use of the encouragement and success which has attended our introduction of Engravings, as the applying it to the purpose of filling up the many blanks which still remain in the geography of our Indian Empire, and correcting the defects of such portions as are filled up erroneously, leaving those who affect to despise such aids, to draw new lights from them to guide them in their own dark wanderings through territories of which they know but little, and would still seem to wish others to know less.

The road from Neemutch to Muttra, by Kota, is said to be by far the most regular and beaten track. In this, it is true that the Chumbul River must be crossed twice, but this is a trifling obstacle compared with the difficult roads and passes of the cross route.

The people of Oudipoor and Boondee are spoken of as robust, hardy, and troublesome fellows, and their Rajah is unable to exercise a very despotic sway over them. The 1st Regiment expected to be at Muttra on the 10th of December, and at Moradabad before the New year commenced. We are promised from this, as well as various other quarters, such useful and novel information as may

be deemed worthy of transmission; and we shall always be found ready on our own parts to indulge to the full extent in the enjoyment of that blessing which so many voices seem lifted up to deary; and to prove by a persevering and undeviating course of public duty, that there are some principles, against which the assailing shafts of declamation and the puny efforts of disappointed spleen fall alike pointless and inefficient.

Sauger.—The following Letter has reached us from one of our Correspondents, in this quarter, dated December 8th 1819, and it contains information too interesting to be compressed or abstracted, so that we present it in its original form.:

This morning Brigadier General Watson, C. B. made over the Command of the Division of the Sauger Army to Lieutenant Colonel Rose, and left this station for the purpose of proceeding to sea, to recruit a constitution which has suffered materially in the discharge of his zealous and able duties during the late active campaigns in central India.

No Officer ever left a division of an Army more generally regretted than this distinguished General. The Officers who have served under him have already presented him with a lasting testimonial of their regard and gratitude, by whom the name of General Watson will, always be spoken of with rapture and applause.]

The Officers of this Force have evinced in a Meeting, which took place among them, that general wish for the advancement of Science and Literature, which, seems to be spreading to the most remote and obscure parts of India. They came to a determination of erecting a Reading Room, and a very handsome subscription was collected for this purpose. The most eminent Publications, Periodical &c. are to be procured from Europe, whilst the ephemeral and monthly Asiatic Journals will form a Collection of Works replete with every desirable information to be acquired in this, and from our Mother Country.

To this rational occupation of time it was also determined to connect an Assembly Room, another for a Billiard Table, and also to build a Racket Court, forming at once a chain of amusements not only tending to rouse and to cheer from the dull monotony of an Indian life, but to give health and vigour to the body.

The climate of Sauger, always delightfully cool, seems to favor and invite to these amusements, the Thermometer never ranging higher it has been remarkable for equability in variation. Sauger is situated on Table land eleven hundred feet above the level of Keitah, and it is believed to be nearly the same above that of Hussingabad. On marching into Sauger from the east or western directions, the pukka bungalows each on separate heights and ridges of hills, give to the view, a very interesting effect; from these heights some of the most romantic and beautiful scenery in India it may safely be asserted is exhibited, embracing the lake of Sauger, a beautiful expanse of water seven miles in circumference, it is supplied by springs and abounds with the finest fish of all descriptions. Several of the Officers have boats rigged as luggers and cutters, which add to the novelty of the scenery whilst cruising up and down this beautiful sheet of water. The soil is remarkable for its fertility, as a proof of this it may be mentioned, that about the 20th of September of this year, green peas, cauliflowers, kidney beans, &c. were in perfection. This circumstance would strengthen the opinion on the excellence of the climate also. The city of Sauger is about six miles in circumference; it contains 15 thousand houses, many of them are of a very large size, all built of stone and tiled excepting the very large ones which are entirely pukka; the population is estimated at 80,000, and the revenue of the district at six lacs and 80,000 rupees. The inhabitants are solely Mahrattas; the large houses are inhabited principally by Pundits, two hundred of whom, including women and children, generally live in one house.

The one now in possession of the Commissariat called Mizza Bhag, contained 200 people of the Pundit tribe, who, vacated this immense building for a small rent from the Company.

On the subject of the privations the natives suffered in this part of India, from the general scarcity and dearness of grain, it is consol-

tory to observe the daily favorable change now taking place; grain of all descriptions is returning to its former standard in value, and the bazars are now stocked with purchasers and sellers, the villages are again filling, and the husbandman is again employed, and his labours bid fair to be rewarded, whilst the once forsaken valleys are now being tilled for future harvest; the roads are thronged with droves of cattle well laden with every species of grain, a prospect which must gladden the hearts of the wearied and the poor, in the hope that the desolating scenes of a former War and Famine committed by the relentless, rapacious Pindaree hordes, are now rapidly advancing under the benign auspices of a British Government, to a change promising to posterity, Peace and Contentment.

Benares.—The following Battalion Orders have been issued by Lieutenant Colonel Macmorine, Commanding 1st Battalion, 10th Regiment Native Infantry, Secrole, Benares, 3d November 1819.

Lieutenant Colonel Macmorine being about to return to Europe, cannot but feel sentiments of the deepest regret on quitting a Corps he has so long had the honour to command, and in which he has served nearly twenty years, with perfect happiness, arising from that zealous attention to duty which has ever been so conspicuous through all ranks of the European Officers, as well as the Native Commissioned and Non-commissioned Officers and men of the Battalion, and from that cordial unanimity in private society, which has happily prevailed in the 10th Regiment.

On this occasion, however, the Lieutenant Colonel feels the highest pleasure in recording his most sincere and grateful thanks to the whole Corps for that happiness which their conduct has afforded him during a great proportion of his life, and which he will continue to feel the liveliest sense of, to the latest period of his existence, and in now taking leave, he begs to express a sincere hope and cordial wish, that the whole Regiment may continue to be as happy in future, as it has been ever since its first formation.

All reports of the Battalion will be made to Major Bowen, after this date.

Bombay.—The Courier of the 27th, from this Presidency, came to hand yesterday, and furnishes the following general information:—

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. W. G. Bird, to be Deputy Collector of Customs and Town Duties at the Presidency. Mr. Henry Shee, to be Assistant to the Collector of Sea Customs in the Concan.

Mr. George Mackenzie Blair, to be second Assistant to the Collector at Poona.

Mr. George A. C. Hyde, to be second Assistant to the Political Agent in Candesh.

Bombay November 27, 1819.—The long looked for ship Carmarthen, Capt. James Ross, arrived here on Tuesday morning; having left England so long since as the 20th May, she brings us nothing in the shape of European intelligence.

On Thursday evening, the Ahmoody, Capt. Cooper, from Bushire the 1st Nov. and Muscat 14th Nov. anchored in this harbour. We learn by her, that His Majesty's ship Liverpool arrived at Muscat on the 13th Nov. after a fine run of 10 days from this port. The Liverpool left the fleet, under convoy of H. M. ship Curlew, the day after they sailed hence. His Highness the Imam of Muscat had paid a visit of ceremony to Sir Wm. Grant Keir on board of the Liverpool.

Yesterday evening, arrived the Eugenia, Captain Allport, from Bussorah 18th October, Bushire 31st October and Muscat 16th November. She left H. M. ship Eden at Bushire, H. M. ship Liverpool and H. C. cruiser Ternate at Muscat, and spoke with H. M. ship Curlew and convoy on the 16th November within 2 days' sail of Kishna, their place of rendezvous.

Ahmedabad.—We are happy to learn by accounts from Ahmedabad the 10th November, that the violence of the disease which has been raging at Limree, resembling the plague in its symptoms and fatal effects, has considerably abated; and that the remainder of the population have generally returned to their homes. It appears that the Shrawnek Bannians, or Jains, have suffered the most, and this circumstance is attributed to their prejudices against cleaning their houses, clothes, or persons.

About one fifth of the population of Limree are stated to have fallen victims to this fatal disorder, many large and respectable families have become extinct, and others have suffered dreadfully. There are only a few instances of persons who are said to have recovered, and even these are not well authenticated cases.

Some fugitives from Limree carried the infection to Wadwan, at which place the disease raged for a few days, but it has abated again.

This disorder has also appeared at the village of Botad in the Ram-pore Pergunnah, but its effects there, have happily not been so fatal as they were at Limree.

Mhow.—A Letter from this station, dated November 8, 1819, communicated through the Bombay Papers, the following information:—

This day being appointed by Brigadier General Sir John Malcolm K. C. B. and K. L. S. for presenting the standards of the 2d Regiment Bombay Light Cavalry, the force at Mhow was drawn up at day break on the general parade. At 1 past 6 o'clock A. M. the Brigadier General, accompanied by the British Resident of Indore and attended by his Staff &c., came upon the ground, and posted himself opposite to the centre of the line (to which spot the standards had been brought by an honorary guard of grenadiers), and was received by a general salute.

The force then formed three sides of a square, and the Brigadier General advanced in front of the 2d Regiment Light Cavalry, the commanding Officer of which and European Officers, followed by three Jemedars and the right troop, advanced to meet the Brigadier General; and Commanding Officers were called to the front, when the Brigadier General presented the standards to Lieutenant Colonel Wilson, the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, and addressed him as follows:

"Lieut. Colonel Wilson and Officers of the 2d Bombay Light Cavalry.—I cannot present these standards to the 2d reg. Bombay Light Cavalry without some observations on the nature of that solemn pledge I now give them, of the confidence which the Government they serve reposes in their discipline and valor.

Standards, Colors, and Banners, have from the most early ages been the pride of soldiers; they are at once the type of their union and their glory, to be followed in victory, to be rallied round in the hour of danger and difficulty. To gain them from a hostile corps has ever been the proudest trophy of triumph—to lose them, the severest disgrace of defeat. Thus raised into importance by the concurring voice of mankind, the sight of their Standard (as the sacred symbol of their associated fame) has always awakened the warmest glow in the breasts of true soldiers.

If such feelings towards the Banners under which they fight are common to all nations, if they inspire ardor even in those that are doomed to be the instruments of oppression and ambition, what must be the sentiments of British troops, whose flags unfurled in the cause of order and of justice, have within these few years waved alike triumphant over the plains of Europe and of Asia? In both these hemispheres, while they have struck terror into all enemies, they have been hailed as a signal for the citizen to return to his home, and the laborer to his field. To these general motives for revering your Standards as soldiers, and as British troops, some of a more particular nature may be added. To give the latter force, I have chosen this day, as the anniversary of the formation of the 2d Regiment of Cavalry, and as that of the Battle of Khirkee, in which their distinguished Commander, Lieut. Col. Wilson, bore a conspicuous part, and many of the men in their ranks did their duty in a gallant manner. That victory, and many others equally memorable, have been recently gained by the brave troops of the Establishment to which they belong.

Receive, therefore, with that spirit of emulation which such pleasing and proud recollections are calculated to inspire, your FIRST STANDARDS, and when they are hereafter unfurled at the opening of some glorious day, think of this moment, and among your lesser motives of exertion, be the remembrance of him by whom they were presented, whose warmest wishes will ever attend you, and who confidently anticipates your future fame, from his knowledge of your order and discipline, the only true foundation of a soldier's reputation."

Lieutenant Colonel Wilson, on receiving the Standards, made the following reply.

"On receiving Sir, from your hands, the Standards of the 2d regt. Light Cavalry, deeply as I feel impressed by the inspiring nature of the occasion, I am at a loss how to express those feelings at the very gratifying and flattering manner in which that honor has been conferred, an honor rendered doubly valuable to myself and every officer and man in the regiment, coming from so highly distinguished an officer as Brigadier General Sir John Malcolm, an honor which has been long most anxiously desired and looked forward to, for from the hour the regiment was placed under your command, the wish was unanimously formed, that our Standards might be presented, Sir, by you; and I trust, that whenever our services are called for, in the field, we shall always bear in proud and grateful recollection, the gallant presenter of them, and endeavour to prove ourselves worthy of his good wishes and the favorable opinion he has formed of us, by

striving to emulate his ardent zeal and gallantry, which have been so successfully and honourably displayed on so many brilliant occasions.

Allow me also to express my sincere thanks for the gratification I personally experience, at your noticing in a manner so flattering to my feelings, my services at the battle of Khirkhee."

After which, he delivered the Standards to the Jemadars by whom they were unfurled, and were at the same moment saluted with Presented Arms by the whole line, and a Royal Salute fired by the Artillery.

The Standards were then paraded from left to right, in front of the line of officers, receiving a separate salute from each corps as they arrived at its flank, and took post opposite their respective squadrons; and the native officers being called to the front, the Brigadier General addressed the regiment in Hindoostanee in a short and impressive speech.

After the parade, the General, accompanied by the Resident and all the officers of the station, sat down to a sumptuous breakfast given by Lieut. Col. Wilson and the officers of the regiment; and in the evening the same party assembled at the hospitable mansion of Sir John, and were splendidly entertained at dinner.

Every delicacy that could be procured was in abundance, and the virtues of the various wines were proved by the frequent recourse to, and quick circulation of the bottles. Never was a party more hospitably regaled, or more sincere in its determination to evince its knowledge of it, for the short hours flitted away and morning found the jovial followers of the Rosy God, still rolled round their Standards.

During the evening a number of excellent toasts were given; and the trumpeters who were in attendance, had five times the pleasing duty of joining their loud harmony to the shouts of the company who five successive times huzzaed the Standards.

After the King, Prince Regent, Duke of York and the Royal family, the following were among the bumpers, each of which was received with thundering cheers—

Marquis of Hastings.
Hon'ble Mountstuart Elphinstone, Governor of Bombay.
Sir C. Colville, Commander in Chief &c.
Marquis Wellesley.
Duke of Wellington.
Captain Daubeny and Grenadier Battalion, with success to them on their march.
Mr. Wellesley, the Resident at Indore.
Ladies at, and coming to Malwa.
Lady Malcolm (by Capt. Caulfield).
Success to the Reading Room.
Col. Corsellis and Bombay Division.
General Keir and success to the Gulph Expedition.
Col. Burr and heroes of Khirkhee.
Col. Houston and relieving corps of the Bengal army.

Several other toasts were given, and each toast was prefaced with a speech delivered in Sir John Malcolm's happy style.

The health and happiness of our noble entertainer was repeatedly drank during the evening and invariably attended with repeated and heartfelt cheerings.

Many good songs tended to enliven the scene, and never did a party break up more gratified than that which met on this occasion.

A dinner and grand nautch were given the following evening by Colonel Wilson to the natives officers and men of the regt. and their friends, which was numerously attended by the General, the Resident and officers in camp. To conclude, never was more done, than on the present occasion has been done, by all parties, to do honor to the event of a regiment receiving its first Standards; and the day on which they were given, consecrated as it has been by the excitement of our best feelings as soldiers and as men, by all the honorable pride of Military parade, and all the flow of convivial joy, will long be memorable in the 2d regt. of Bombay Light Cavalry.

Candeish.—The following is communicated to the Editor of the Bombay Courier, in a Letter dated Camp S. W. 13 Koss of Mallygaun, the 12th of November 1819:

In perusing the last Number of your valuable paper, I was highly gratified to find the description of the death of a tiger which was killed at Mallygaun on the 23d ultimo, for it was striking one off the long list of wild beasts which infest the wilds of Candeish.

You will excuse my informing you, Mr. Editor, that these formidable animals have been very numerous in this part of the world, and have for many years proved exceedingly troublesome and annoying to the poor inhabitants.

In addition to the many misfortunes and calamities which the Candeish province has been visited by, within these seventeen years past, war, famine, and subject for a long time to the incessant depredations of a lawless Banditti, the great inconvenience experienced from the royal tiger was not the least to be dreaded amidst these afflictions, for this blood thirsty animal played his part on the tragic scene with a marked fidelity.

From a continued combination of these evils, this fine country was reduced to a most deplorable condition, and consequently became greatly depopulated; so that the once proverbially rich and fertile soil of Candeish is now generally a waste covered with jungle, which no doubt contributes much to the unhealthiness of the climate. Yet the great change for the better is already becoming manifest, owing to the mild measures and enlightened policy introduced by our fostering government.

To return to my subject. These destructive tigers took post in the vicinity of some deserted village or in favorable spots near bye paths or roads, from whence they committed great devastation amongst the villagers' cattle, and occasionally ponied on some unwary inhabitant passing along, whom they murdered with impunity, and very often an unfortunate Cornby working at the extremity of his field, fell a victim to their voracious appetites.

Without the most distant wish to detract in the smallest degree from the credit the Mallygaun party deserve for having killed the tiger on foot, I shall transcribe from my memorandum book the list of tigers killed at and near Chandore within these last fifteen months. And should you have spare room in one of your columns, you can insert it, in the absence of more important matter.

1. Royal tiger killed 23 August 1818.—This tiger was attacked by a party of the Komavishdar's Sebundies, about noon. The Royal animal charged repeatedly, killed a Sebundy, and a few minutes afterwards killed a Jemadar, who advanced bravely to attack him sword in hand. The party retired as night was coming on, and the tiger was found dead in a nulla two days afterwards, having died of his wounds.

2. Royal tiger killed 26th August 1818.—Upon our approaching this tiger he tried to effect his escape; having advanced unexpectedly to the spot where he had concealed himself, he rushed out and charged. A Naig of undaunted courage who was a little in advance, allowed the animal to approach within four or five paces, when he shot him dead on the spot. The musket ball penetrated the forehead.

3. Royal tiger killed 1st September 1818.—This tiger charged several times, received three wounds in the body; and a rifle ball striking him in the head killed him instantly.

4. Royal tiger killed 24 November 1818.—This tiger was found devouring the body of the Patail of the village, which he had just murdered. Shewed great anxiety to escape. Followed him a long distance. Several small matchlock and rifle balls struck him in the body and neck; a rifle ball striking him between the eyes, he expired immediately.

5. A royal tigress killed 29th April 1819.—This tigress attempted to charge several times, broke her leg; and fifth ball musket size struck her in the eye; she died immediately. A very hot day.

6. A rather small royal tiger killed 30th April 1819.—The Komavishdar's Sebundies killed the tiger, he wounded two men, one of them badly.

7. Royal tiger killed 12th June 1819.—This tiger was found in a Jewary field, and killed in a few minutes. He wounded a Sebundy badly.

8. A very large Royal tiger killed 16th July 1819. This tiger having been wounded in the leg, showed every inclination to charge, but he retired to a small bush in his rear. Upon the party nearing him, he dashed out and upset two Sebundies; one of them he slightly wounded. Two matchlock men fired, the balls entered his side, and at the same moment a ball musket size struck him in the spine, he fell and was soon dispatched with swords. A heavy shower of rain fell before the tiger started, which greatly incommoded all, but particularly the matchlockmen.

9. A fine Cheeta; 10th a tigress, and 11th a large royal tiger killed 16th Augst. 1819.—This morning the Bheela, who brought the information of the Cheeta, described him to be a tiger. Went to the spot, after a long chase, came up with him. A Matrossy upon seeing him called out in English, I seezum; he fired and exclaimed, I can make killum, I make killum, come, he got dead. The ball only passed thro' his neck, which stunned him for a few seconds, he got up and ran off, but was soon shot afterwards.

The party went now to the tigress, she seemed in a very angry humour, charged repeatedly and wounded two Sebundies very badly. Just as she was expiring under many wounds, a very large roy-

tiger was observed descending the height close by. After he had settled himself, the party advanced, he seemed anxious to charge, but showed great reluctance to quit the spot where he rested; several balls struck him in the flanks, and a ball musket size having pierced his side obliquely, passed thro' his liver, and he fell to rise no more. His skin measured 10 feet 4½ inches, and he was ten years of age, for he had 10 lobes to his liver, and it is by the appearance of the tiger's liver that the natives ascertain the age; the tigress was eight years old. All these were killed by persons on foot, and except on a few occasions when some regular sepoya accompanied the party, the men were always armed with matchlocks, they had it not in their power to procure elephants ornamented with gilded howdahs and caparisoned with costly trappings.

The exertions of the political agent in Candeish have been highly meritorious and praiseworthy, for he has carried on a war of extermination against these animals in the centre of the country. The party at Dhoollia, in the course of ten weeks, during the rainy season, killed fourteen tigers, and several since then.

These ferocious beasts often charged the elephants; many indeed even attempted to reach the howdah, so that the elephants have lost all their must from the unkind reception they met with, particularly from the tigresses.

Ceylon.—The following are the only local paragraphs from the Ceylon Gazette of the 20th of November:

Colombo, Nov. 20.—On Wednesday last the Ship *Albinia* came in from Bombay, having on board the Right Honourable Sir Evan Nepean, bart.—late Governor of Bombay.—Sir Evan landed about three o'clock, under the salute due to his rank, and proceeded to the King's House:—he re-embarked last evening after sun-set, and the Ship resumed her voyage to England this morning.

The packet by the *Blenheim* was closed yesterday morning, and she got under weigh in the course of the afternoon:—the following passengers return to England by this opportunity:—Captain Kettlewell, R. A.—Mr. Mead, Ordnance Storekeeper—Asst. Surgeon Haggerty, 83d Regt.—Mrs. Haggerty; Lieutenant Mudge, R. E.—and Lieutenant Thisselton 73d Regt.

We understand that the Bishop of Calcutta may be expected here early next year,—and that it is his Lordship's intention to hold a confirmation.

The Session of the Supreme Court commenced on Tuesday last,—and does not, we understand, close till the beginning of next week.

Madras.—The following is from the Madras Government Gazette of the 2nd instant:

Madras, Dec. 2.—The weather has continued fine, and therefore unseasonable, during the week; little more than one-third the usual Monsoon supply of Rain has fallen as yet at the Presidency; and general appearances have been against an immediate addition to it—the atmosphere, however, has continued to possess an unusual degree of heat—an indication that the Monsoon Rains have not yet entirely ceased.

A Critical Rejoinder.

To the Pupil of the D—A.

Wise Youth,

I congratulate you on your perspicacity, in having perceived as you imagine a new spot in the Sun, which, I dare say, is a World of sufficient importance to gratify the ambition of such a little Columbus as you appear to be, in your first voyage of discovery; but are you certain that this fancied spot is not in one of the lenses of your own eye? I must take the liberty to inform you, on the authority of Lindley Murray, that the sentence which you have ventured to criticise, and find fault with, is perfectly correct, and if you attend to the government of the propositions, free from the smallest ambiguity; but your own arrangement is exceptionable; because, in that way, neither the possessive pronoun "their" nor the personal pronoun "they" refers to its proper grammatical antecedent; whereas the language to which you object, is natural, easy, and to any understanding but your own, free from any kind of solecism. Now, Sir, I shall take the liberty to make one remark more. Do you know what a dilemma is? You must have written this fine piece of criticism either with, or without, your Preceptor's knowledge. If with his knowledge, the inference may easily be drawn; if without it, what will it say in favor of your good manners, to those who may be of opinion that it savours much of self-conceit, and impertinence, for ignorant boys to be criticising the writings of men?

A PUPIL OF THE C. AND C. A.

Sporting Intelligence.

The Races commenced at this Presidency, yesterday morning, when the New Race Stand, was opened for the first time. As considerable interest was excited, the Course was thronged at an early hour; but the fog being unusually heavy, the Horses did not start until the sun was high above the horizon. The order of the different contests, and their results, were as follows:

CALCUTTA DECEMBER MEETING.

Monday, December 20, 1819.

Sweepstakes of 25 Gold Mohurs each, for Maiden Arabs, (bona fide, &c.) 8st. 7lb. each—T. M. (ten Subscribers.)

1. Mr. Fallin's	.....	Gr. H. Aleck.
2. Captain O'Kelly's	.....	Gr. H. Hukkeebokah
Mr. Treves's	.....	Gr. H. Commissioner.
Mr. Walter's	.....	Br. H. Snowball.
Mr. Black's	.....	B. Mare.
Mr. Arthur's	.....	B. H. Mountebank.
Mr. Hunt's	.....	Gr. H.

Commissioner made play, followed close by Hukkeebokah, and led past the post. From the thickness of the fog, the Horses could not be seen on the opposite side of the course, but when they came in sight again, Aleck and Hukkeebokah were leading and ran a hard race in, which was won by Aleck, by a neck.

The Trial Stakes of 100 Gold Mohurs each, for Horses that never started in this Country, 2 years old, a feather—three, 7st. 4lb.—four, 8st. 4lb.—five, 8st. 13lb.—six, 9st. 3lb. and aged, 9st. 5lb.—Mares, &c. all 3lb. R. C. (six Subscribers.)

1. Captain O'Kelly's	.....	Br. E. F. Ulrica,	by Gustavus, 4 years.
2. Mr. Lyon's	.....	B. E. C. Scud,	by Canopus, 4 years.
3. Mr. Walter's	.....	Gr. E. C. Jack Tar,	by Camillus, 4 years.
4. Mr. Treves's	.....	Ch. E. G. Leparello,	6 years.
5. Mr. Thomas'	.....	B. E. G. Woodpecker,	6 years.

All the Horses run together, about half way round the Course, when Ulrica and Scud took the lead and ran a beautiful race won by Ulrica, by a neck.

Sweepstakes of 50 Gold Mohurs each—T. M.

1. Mr. Walter's	.....	Gr. A. H. Antelope,	8
2. Mr. Lyon's	.....	B. A. H. Slouch,	8 4
3. Mr. Treves's	.....	Gr. A. H. Shrimp,	7 7

Won easily by Antelope who took the lead and kept it all the way.

Match for 50 Gold Mohurs—T. M.

1. Mr. Walter's	.....	Gr. G. Bantam,	8 2
2. Mr. Fallin's	.....	Ch. P. Pack,	8 3

A close race throughout, won by Bantam.

Match for 200 Gold Mohurs—T. J.

1. Mr. Yate's	.....	B. A. H. Trumpeter,	8
2. Mr. Fallin's	.....	Gr. A. H. Lancaster,	8 10

Trumpeter took the lead, followed close by Lancaster, an even and well contested race, won by half a neck.

Match for 50 Gold Mohurs, P. P.—R. C.

1. Mr. Black's	.....	Ch. C. M. Laurel Leaf,	8 7
2. Mr. Lamb's	.....	Gr. A. H. Strongback,	8 7

Strongback made play, but the Filly had evidently the best of the race throughout, and beat him at last very easily.

The comfortable accommodation afforded by the New Race Stand was universally felt and admired. The open gallery afforded abundant room, with convenient and agreeable seats for the Ladies; while the terrace above, offered a still more commanding view to the Gentlemen who preferred ascending there to remaining below. Some unnecessary fears seemed to be entertained as to the roof not being sufficiently strong to bear the weight of all who might assemble on it; but from the number and size of the pillars on which the beams rest, and the shortness and solid dimensions of the beams themselves, we conceive, that it must be deemed abundantly secured, and capable of sustaining the weight of any number of persons that might be spread over it.

In the lower Hall, a sumptuous Breakfast was prepared for such of the Company as were disposed to remain and partake of it; and the whole arrangement of the Establishment seemed to be so well calculated to add to the pleasures of those who were present, that it is highly probable the Race Stand will become a place of fashionable morning resort, during the season.

Public Proceedings

Of the Committee, appointed by the Inhabitants of Calcutta, at the Town Hall, on the 22d of September last, to present their Petition to the Government.—Officially communicated.

At a Committee held at the Town Hall, on the 15th day of December, 1819.

PRESENT;

J. Hayes, Chairman.

J. Palmer, Trevor Plowden,
J. Young, W. P. Dampier,
J. S. Buckingham, J. Pattle,

Read a Letter from Mr. Secretary Lushington, dated Council Chamber, 26th November 1819, communicating the Opinion of the Government on a deliberate consideration of the Petition of the Inhabitants of Calcutta, and the Letter of the Committee appointed by the Inhabitants, addressed to the Government on the subject of the Constitution of the Vestry of St. John's Cathedral.

1. Resolved, That a Meeting be convened of the Persons who have signed the Petition to Government on the Vestry Question, for the purpose of submitting to them the Proceedings of the Committee, and the Reply which has been sent to them by the Secretary to Government, and of recommending their acquiescence in the course of Proceedings pointed out by Government.

2. Resolved, That a Letter be addressed to the Sheriff, containing the above Resolution, and requesting him to obtain the Sanction of Government for convoking the Meeting required, accordingly.

3. Resolved further, unanimously, That in order to complete the series of documents upon the Vestry Question, which have been recently imperfectly published in the Government Gazette, and other Newspapers of this Presidency, that the Address to Government by the Committee of the Inhabitants of Calcutta, which accompanied their Memorial, together with the evidence furnished by Mr. Barnfield, formerly Vestry Clerk of St. John's, be published in the *Calcutta Journal*.

Copy of the Letter addressed to the Sheriff.

SIR,

We have the honor to request, consonant to the enclosed Resolutions, that you will be pleased to obtain the sanction of Government for convoking a Meeting at the Town Hall, on the 24th instant, at 10 A. M. of the Subscribers to the Petition voted at that place on the 22d of September, for the purposes therein stated.

We have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servants.

(Signed) For the Committee,
JOHN HAYES, CHAIRMAN.

At a Committee held at the Town Hall, on the 18th day of Dec. 1819.

PRESENT;

J. HAYES, Chairman.

J. Palmer, J. Young,
J. Pattle, T. Plowden,
P. M. Wynch,

Read the Resolutions passed on the 15th instant;

Resolved by a majority, That those Resolutions be carried into effect as soon as possible.

Copies of the Papers ordered to be printed.

No. I.

Letter addressed to the Government and presented by the Committee, with the Memorial or Petition of the Inhabitants.

To the Most Noble, the Marquis of Hastings, K. G. &c. &c. &c. Governor General in Council.

MY LORD,

After the Memorial, which we have now the honor of presenting to your Lordship, had been engrossed for signature, we took occasion to refer to Mr. William Barnfield, (just recently returned from England,) who had formerly held the Office of Vestry Clerk to St. John's Church, for such information as he could furnish relative to the annual practice of Vestry Elections, publication of accounts, and other matters affecting the management of the public charities.

And consequent thereto, we received from Mr. Barnfield the accompanying Letter, dated 25th October, together with the Schedule to which it adverts—A—

And conceiving these documents to contain the most conclusive corroboration of all the Facts illustrative of the several Resolutions almost unanimously voted at the Town Hall, on the 22d of September, we deem them of the utmost validity in sustaining the Prayer of this Memorial; and accordingly assume the liberty of annexing them to it.

From Mr. Barnfield's Letter, these incontrovertible Facts will be established:—

1st, That from his appointment in 1796, and two years antecedently, whilst he officiated for Mr. Collier, until 1807, a General Vestry was yearly summoned for the Election, by the Inhabitants of Calcutta, of Church Officers.

2nd, That these Elections were regularly recorded in the Minutes or Books of the Vestry, conformably to the Rules prescribed in 1787, and that only in the absence of Electors, was the practice of Self-Election by the Select Vestry resorted to.

3rd, That an Annual Statement of the Charitable Funds in the hands of the Vestry, was regularly published.

4th, That owing to an obvious laxity in conducting the pecuniary affairs of the Church, a disaster is stated to have occurred at one time, and the loose transfer and possession of the Funds is alleged at others.

5th, That at the pleasure (beneficent and laudable as it might have been in point of fact) of the Church Officers, the Charity Funds were applied to purposes foreign to their declared object, and on one occasion with hazard to them.

6th, That exclusively of the annual convocation of the Inhabitants to choose the Church Officers, references were made for their approbation of the extension and appropriation of Charitable Contributions; and that it was only upon experiencing the supineness in these matters, in the Inhabitants of Calcutta, that the Church Officers exercised the laudable, but informal and perhaps unlawful privilege, of arbitrarily disposing of the Vestry Funds.

7th. To these, we beg leave to add, that the Vestry Records of St. John's Church, will conclusively prove, (and we earnestly, and humbly solicit your Lordship's inspection of those Records,) that the Annual Election of Members to serve in Vestry, has been invariably conducted in the manner and form prescribed or laid down by the Regulations of 1787, and that no deviation therefrom has ever occurred, excepting only the solitary instance of the undue Re-election of the two publicly rejected Members, on the 12th of April last, after the unwarrantable and indecorous expulsion of the Brothers, Plowden.

We have the honor to be,

My Lord,

With the highest respect, your Lordship's

Most obedient and most faithful Servants,

(Signed) For the Committee,
JOHN HAYES, CHAIRMAN.

Calcutta, 8th November, 1819.

No. II.

Copy of Mr. Barnfield's Letter, addressed to John Hayes, Esq. Chairman of the Committee, &c. &c.

SIR;

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter, from the Committee Room of the 22nd instant, requesting of me to give you the information on Vestry matters of former times, which I must have acquired from filling the situation of Vestry Clerk for so many years. I cannot have any objections to communicate the information you require, as when I filled the situation of Vestry Clerk, I was authorised to publish all proceedings in which the Inhabitants of Calcutta were interested.

I cannot speak with certainty of any thing that occurred in the Calcutta Vestry previous to the year 1795. I have recollection of hearing, that some disaster happened to the old Church records, &c. while Mr. Vansittart was Trustee or Churchwarden, and as such Treasurer also; it was well understood at the time, altho' that Gentleman was of the most benevolent disposition, he had not leisure to investigate accounts; the Society of Calcutta was comparatively small, and all the duties consisted in paying the Monthly Bills of the

* This Schedule A contains a General Report of the State of the Schools in 1802, shewing the names of all the Scholars, distinguishing whether European, Country-born, Portuguese, Armenian, or otherwise, and whether either or both of their Parents were dead or alive.

Old Charity School, which then consisted of thirty Boys and twenty Girls, and which was separate and distinct from the Free School, the former having existed since, or perhaps previous to the year 1756, and the latter was of very recent date, and its funds arose from the Voluntary Donations and Subscriptions of the Inhabitants, which falling off, and the Funds being insufficient for the maintenance of the Children placed upon its foundation, it was resolved to consolidate the two Funds and unite the Schools, which was to be called the "United Charity Schools," and not as now, Free School. In the year 1802, there were about two hundred Children, educated, boarded, and clothed in the School, of which number one hundred and forty-three were Boys; their names and description you will find in the inclosure marked A.* The Treasurer kept the Cash, but the accounts were kept by a Native writer, and I have good reason to believe it seldom happened, that the Treasurer saw the accounts before the morning of being presented to the Vestry, when he compared them with the cheques he had signed, during the year, and finding them correct, put his name to the account; but this being an abstract only, could afford no information to the public, and was not therefore printed, and such was the courtesy of the Gentlemen of the Vestry, that they were satisfied with ordering such accounts to be recorded, and detailed accounts were seldom published.

I always understood, that the Select Vestry, as particularized in the Regulation of the year 1787, was established with a view to regulate the Church government, and give weight and solemnity to all its proceedings until it was regularly placed under proper Church Officers, duly elected according to the term of the Regulation by the Ministers, Church officers, and Inhabitants, on Easter Monday. I never heard or understood they were afterwards at any time liable to be called upon, or that they formed any part of the Church Vestry, altho' the Gentlemen elected, continued to call themselves the Select Vestry.—The Junior Chaplain did not attend the Vestry Meetings, until the Charitable Fund was instituted in 1802, and he was not, I believe, considered a Member of the Vestry.

I was appointed Vestry Clerk in the year 1796, but officiated for Mr. Hollier, my predecessor, for two years previous. From 1794 to 1807, it was the invariable practice to give notice in Church on Easter Sunday, of a General Vestry to be held the following day, being Easter Monday, to elect Church Officers for the ensuing year; such notice was sometimes published in the Calcutta Gazette; it however seldom happened that any of the Inhabitants attended; when they did, which I am pretty certain has been the case, their names were recorded on the proceedings, and they gave their Vote at the Election of Church Officers; if not, the Gentlemen present regularly re-elected themselves, or if any wished to resign, some other Gentleman was proposed, seconded, and regularly elected by majority, and the rules laid down by the Select Vestry in 1787, were always referred to, when occasion required, and acted upon. The Election was invariably postponed for a short time, after the hour appointed, and either I or one of the Gentlemen went into the Church to bring in any of the Inhabitants that might be in waiting to vote.

In the year 1795, and for some years previous, Mr. Edmund Morris was Churchwarden and Treasurer to the Schools; as such he kept the Cash and Accounts of the Schools, the Book of proceedings of the Vestry, in which little or nothing was recorded, but the Annual Election of Church Officers, which always took place on Easter Monday, pursuant to notice, and in manner as before stated. Previous to Mr. Morris's return to Europe, he recommended Mr. Francis Horsley as his successor, which was acceded to, and the first General Meeting of the Vestry held after he came into Office. He attended with the Funds of the School in his hand, in Company's Paper, and being called upon to exhibit the Annual Accounts, he jocosely stated, he had none to give; that Mr. Morris handed to him several Books and Accounts, and a quantity of Government Promissory Notes, above two lacs of rupees which were not endorsed, and for which he had not given any Receipt or Acknowledgement, and considered himself, as having best title to them, and did not feel disposed to give them up, unless the Vestry agreed to a special endorsement being written across the face of each, stating the same to belong to the Old Charity School, &c. &c. which verification will be found recorded upon the proceedings. The Reverend Mr. Brown acknowledged the remissness of the Vestry, thanked Mr. Horsley, and cheerfully complied with his wishes. Some considerable time after, Mr. Horsley discovered that his predecessor had from time to time lent from the Old Charity, upwards of forty thousand rupees to the Free School Fund; and in Vestry argued the impropriety and injustice of such transfer, and among other things that so much might with equal justice have been taken from his pocket. This was represented in an application to Government, who in consideration of the circumstances, issued an order, and the Old Charity Fund was reimbursed by the Government.

* A Schedule before referred to.

The Charitable Fund for the relief of distressed objects was instituted about 1801-2, and arose from Collections in the Church Donations, offerings, and the interest of General Martin's Legacy, from which Funds relief was afforded to all nations; the only recommendation necessary, being real distress, although many objects were recommended to receive relief by the principal inhabitants.

The Reverend Mr. Brown always considered it absolutely necessary to publish a Statement of the Charitable Fund, though no man could regret more than him the deprivations of the poor; but he was of opinion, he aided their cause by making known the number of distressed objects, and if reference be made to the accounts published by me under his direction from the commencement of the Institution until the end of 1807, when I went to Europe, it will be found, that the name of every individual was recorded, and the amount of relief afforded, and the name of the person recommending the object, if any. It happened frequently that Mr. Horsley, the then Churchwarden, privately visited the objects applying for Charity, and afforded relief from his private purse. The Reverend Mr. Brown was anxious to extend the benefit of the School to as many objects as possible, for which purpose he reduced the School Establishment, and requested me to wait upon the Gentlemen of the Settlement to explain to them his views, and endeavour to get them to give something in aid of his object; and for the most part I received for answer, "Publish your Accounts and the improvements you propose, and we shall then see what you want, and knowing what you are about, we shall not be backward in seconding your views for public good."

Finding the Public unwilling to afford the assistance required, was the reason for Voting the Consolidation of the Funds of the two Schools, to simplify the Accounts, in order to have them regularly published.

I trust what I have stated in answer will afford you and the Committee the information required; but should further explanation be deemed necessary, I shall have great pleasure in giving you all the assistance in my power.

I have the honor to remain, Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

Calcutta, Oct. 25, 1819.

W. BARNFIELD.

Himalyah.

The very valuable and interesting details which have from time to time appeared in our Journal regarding this mountainous region, has induced us to add to the store two excellent Letters that appeared in the India Gazette of yesterday, having no scruple ourselves either to acknowledge the value or the authenticity of certain information, because it finds its way into other Journals before our own, but being always ready to assist in the dissemination of useful knowledge, from what source it may be obtained. The Letters are as follows:

The following is an Extract of a Letter from Captain J. A. H. 10th Regiment, dated Camp Herapoor, November 9th 1819.

"I have the pleasure of sending you an Extract from a Letter I have just received from Lieutenant H. of the 8th Regiment, my companion in the surveys of the Gauges and Jumna within the Himalya Mountains, giving an account of his passage over the great snowy range, between the Jumna and Sutluj Rivers, by a pass hitherto unknown to Europeans, at the head of the Roopin river, which is one of the three branches of the Touse, which you know is a very large river flowing from the south western face of the Himalya Mountains and which joins the Jumna near Umbury in the Doon valley, and loses its name in that of the Jumna, though it is three times the size of the latter stream, which rises at Jumnoutri, also on the hither face of those Mountains, as described in the paper tendered by me to the Most Noble the Governor General, and presented by him to the Asiatic Society.—Mr. H.'s letter, it is evident, is a private communication to me, and not intended to meet the public eye. So many letters from the mountains have appeared in the Calcutta newspapers, that perhaps public curiosity is pallied; but as Mr. H.'s is short, and, I am sure a very faithful description of the formidable barrier he crossed, if you think it would be acceptable to any of the Editors of the Journals, it is at their service. You know I was the first European who ever crossed that part of the snowy range which lies between the Baghretti, (or Ganges river) and the Sutluj; I did so in June 1816.—Having penetrated up the bed of the Sutluj in the rugged province of Kunawr. I found myself to the north of the range, and ascending it, crossed over the crest to the Bussaher district of Swarra of Chohara, descending by the bed of the Andretie, one of the branches of the Pabur.—Mr. H. on the contrary, went up the bed of the Roopin or Roop Gunga, ascending on the S. W. or hither side—a cross to the Sutluj.—The heights and general features of the two

passes are nearly the same, except that the scenery in the route Mr. H. took must be grander, as the Roopin is a much larger body of water than the Andreitic and the general difficulties, particularly that of passing through the snow, are more in October than in June; but, even in the end of that month, the snow fell heavily as I crossed the Crest at 40 minutes past 11 A. M. The passes, you know, always lead over the lowest parts of the snowy range; they are generally, about 16,000 feet high, tho' there is one visited by Captain Webb, I believe, 17,000 feet; those I have seen are always flanked by peaks which rise 3 or 4000 feet higher; in some places they may be more or less, but it is not in the vicinity of the passes where the most lofty pinnacles are found:

It may be said that the method of determining altitudes by boiling water is only approximative—that is true; but it is nevertheless capable of some degree of accuracy in many cases, as in hollows where no peak of a known altitude is visible, and where Barometers are not at hand; and it is very difficult in the rugged paths in the great mountains, to keep them in order. With a thermometer of a foot in length, the 4th part of a degree may be easily read off with a magnifying glass, but those of Dr. Woolaston's construction, will, I think, completely supersede the use of barometers, as they are capable of great accuracy, and cost little, are easily carried, and little liable to injury. An account of these instruments has appeared in the Philosophical Transactions. I first used this method, (but with common thermometers only) in the snowy pass before mentioned, on the 24th June, 1816, and before I knew of Dr. Woolaston's improved instrument. I did not then know of its having been resorted to, before, but I since found, that Saussure had used it on Mont Blanc. Lieutenant Herbert and I have frequently compared the differences of altitudes, given by the thermometer in this way, with those known and determined by geometrical operations, and found the results very satisfactory, within certain limits. Of course geometrical methods are always preferable where they can be used, and by them, Mr. H.'s estimation of the height of the pass will be corrected, by means of the observed angles of elevation, and known heights and distances of the two peaks he mentions.—Their altitudes, as well as of a great number of the lofty summits of the Himalya, are determined trigonometrically, with good instruments, and on just principles, as will be detailed hereafter.

Much has been said and written on the subject of the uncertainty of Terrestrial Refraction, with very little reason, and apparently with a view to throw discredit on the observations of the altitudes of the Himalya, and of their comparative heights when compared with those of the Andes and other lofty ranges,—as if the same objections, be they well or ill founded, did not apply to all operations of the same kind; but I think that much less uncertainty prevails from the effects of such refraction, than some Critics are pleased to suppose. On a *Meau* (and of course generally at comparative low elevations) Roy, Madge, Lambton, Maskelyne, Delambre and Mechain, and Le Gené, and others, have found that it is generally from 1-10th to 1-14th but nearest to 1-12th of the subtended arc,—and this quantity determined by reciprocal angles of elevation and depression, we have also found, when the visual ray passed thro' a moist and dense medium—as is the atmosphere of the plains, though the object be high and distant, if the angles are small compared with the arc—but within the mountains, where the air is clear, light and very dry, 1-18th to 1-20th of the arc is all that can be allowed; and though there, the elevations and depressions can seldom or ever be taken at the same instant of time, yet they were taken under circumstances of season and climate not much different, and the arcs were short, compared with the apparent angles of elevation. Thus, by means of small arcs and large angles of elevation, a series of progressive differences of the heights of the stations, to within a few miles of the feet of the snowy peaks is obtained, which added together, must give the whole height, subject only to the small quantity of error, which may arise, from the inability of the observer to ascend the sharp and steep pinnacles of the Himalya to take the depressions of his nearest station; but if it is only 10 or 12 miles, or even double that distance, and the apparent angle of its elevation at the nearest station, be 4° or 8°—it matters but little, whether the refraction be assumed 1-15th or 1-25th. The heights given by the whole arcs, from the station at Scharunpore of the peaks seen at low elevations, and so great distances as from 98 to 154 miles, are of course less satisfactory, than those given by the sum of the short arcs, but they have been observed, and will be given compared with the latter.

The writer in the *Quarterly Review*, on Capt. Webb's measurements, seems (if I understand him) to consider, that the air at the Himalya is, as it were, congealed, and consequently a dense medium, occasioning much refraction: I can assure him, that though it is cold, it is very thin, light and dry, qualities, just the reverse of those, which have hitherto been supposed to occasion that uncertainty: besides, were it so, the same effects would take place on the Andes and the Alps. The instance which the Reviewer gives, of an

extraordinary refraction observed by the Captain of a trading ship, which, he says caused the apparent rising of the sun, as seen over the level ice in a high northern latitude, to be very erroneous, is by no means applicable to the lofty Himalya peaks—even supposing the Captain to have been quite correct, it seems strange that our scientific navigators, Cook, Lord Mulgrave, and others, do not to the best of my remembrance mention any thing of the kind, at least to so great an amount. The thinness and lightness of the air within the snowy mountains, is proved by the Barometers; its dryness, from the rapidity with which fluids are evaporated; and its purity and transparency, by the deep blue color of the sky, and the astonishing lustre of the stars, which does not appear augmented after they suddenly and like flashes, rise from behind the white peaks, nor diminish when disappearing instantaneously. This would not be the case if the medium were dense, and the refraction considerable, as we know from experience. I should take up too much room were I to give at length my opinion of most part of the paper in the *Quarterly Review* on Captain Webb's Works; Both those which profess to be merely and those latter approximative operations, where circumstances allowed him to make use of exact methods. The Reviewer dwells much on the former, I mean the results only intended and professing to be approximative, founded on route measures in the plains, tho' taken and with care, they were sufficient in my opinion, for showing the comparative great height of the Himalya, and they meant no more. On some possible uncertainties in this part of the operation, the Reviewer dwells much; of the latter and certain observations, of Capt. W. within the mountains, the Reviewer only states the results, and takes little notice of the means of obtaining them. If he knew them, this was unfair. But Capt. W. is fully able to take his own part, which I trust he will do, and by a full exposition of his modes of proceeding, to show himself worthy as he is, of a more enlightened and candid Critic.—Your's, &c.

The following is an Extract of a Letter, dated Wodar or Cave, in Lat. 31° 22', on the northern face of the snowy Range.—1st October, 1819.

"Here we are across the pass, and a formidable pass it is. Certainly I think nothing more arduous has yet been attempted, and we are the first white faces that have ever been seen on it I imagine. Water boils at this our Cave and Bivouac, at 191° F.—thermometer 48° 2', at 2 p. m.

I wrote to you from Poojalie, often called Koonara,—From thence, we went up the Roopin * to Jako, latterly choosing the right branch which is the lesser, but keeps the name.—From Jako we marched to the usual sort of valley (which you know we find at the head of all these Himalya rivers) surrounded by snowy peaks, and having only a few stunted Birch trees for fire-wood. The river expanding in a level bed, smooth as a millpond, and most pleasing to look at.—From this valley, where water boils at 193° 7', (at Whartoot it boils at 104°) we set out on the 30th September, at 9h 45m. to attempt the arduous task of crossing this snow-bound range. A mile or two brought us to the real head of the river, being one of the most noble cataracts I think I ever beheld. It consists of 2 falls, each not less than 150 feet, but such bodies of water! At the foot of the upper fall is a snow bed as hard as a rock, a rift in which, I measured and found to be 41 feet deep. It had a little fresh snow on it, which was fast melting. From hence to the ascent of the ridge is steep and over fresh snow knee deep. On gaining the ridge you go along it, for about 4 miles, the snow varying from knee to middle deep, and in more than one place we found it breast deep. It was too soft, so that I sunk very often up to the middle which fatigued me much, and had it not been for some refreshments, I think I should not have reached the summit. After this travel I have described, we discovered the wall of the pass rising to the height of 800 feet, and at an acclivity of 35°. It was a tremendous sight certainly. However, in the course of an hour or so, I got up and P. with me, and there we stood upon the crest of the Himalya, at 20 minutes past 4 p. m. with a most sublime spectacle. On one side, the fine towering peaks and distant ranges, and snowy plains, and sky tinged deep blue, by the table land of Tartary; and on the other a most dreary sight, namely the Bojhies† at the bottom of the pass with heavy loads and despairing countenances. The sun fast sinking, the temperature perceptibly falling, a long and dreary 3 miles of snow ahead and worst of all, time flying and no exertions making. A pretty picture you will say! a most distressing one to me, for it left me no power or admire to observe the wondrous scenes, before me: concerning which, all I can say, is, that they were most wondrous. It was now half past 5, and the fly of the Beechoba,

* One of the branches of the Tounse river, which tho' much larger than the Jumna, loses its name in that of the latter river, which joins it in the Doon valley.

† A mountain fort and trigonometrical station in Comarsain.

‡ Mountain coolies, who carry loads on their back.

tent still at the foot of the pass, with other things less worthy of mention. To complete, I was informed that one of the tent Lascars was taken ill, and could not proceed. What was to be done? I determined to abandon the baggage, in order to have the invalid brought on, and thus at length all the people were fairly across by sunset. Fortunately it was a moon-light night, which enabled us to see our way tolerably well, and the decreasing temperature rendered the snow hard and good to walk on, and the declivity was tolerably easy; so that we got thro' and arrived here at 7h. 36m. p. m.:—having been 10 hours on our legs and travelled 13 miles, of which 7 was ascent and 6 snow. Only 4 of the Bhojias and one Sepoy remained behind, exhausted with fatigue; they could not proceed, and were found the next morning by a Havildar sent back for them, all in a lump on a rock in the middle of the snow. When they saw him, he says they set up a howl like a pack of dogs. To conclude, we are all safe and sound, not having lost so much as a toe or finger, which is wonderful, tho' partly attributable to the care I took in having all the people provided with blanket stockings.

I am extremely happy in having chosen this new pass, in preference to that above the Pabur, which you first went over in June 1816, and others, the following years: for I have got new lights on the subject of the range and the course of the Suttulj and other rivers; also this appears to be the direct road to Shipkee.—We have here below us, a stream which we brought from the pass, and which strange to say, runs about E. N. E. or rather East.—Is not this odd, and such as you could not have looked for? Notwithstanding the quantity of snow we found, this pass does not appear (I think) above 15,600 feet.—Water boils 187° 3' by the long thermometer, and by which all my boilings are made; It, you know, boiled at Saharunpore at 212° and consequently at the sea would boil at 213° nearly.

3 P. M.—The baggage is all up—I promised a Rupee for each load, and the people went back and brought them.—We have just had a light fall of snow, and altogether it is cold—thermometer 45°.—We propose going back to the pass to-morrow morning, to look about us, and you shall have a line giving the result.—We are within a march of Singla, which is on the Buspa, and 2 miles from Kanroo.

2d October.—Same Place.—Yesterday we halted, as I said, to allow the baggage to come up.—We arrived so late on the pass that nothing could be done, and we were distressed on account of our people, which fully occupied our attention.—This being the case, we determined to re-visit it, and look about us at our leisure, for which purpose, we set out last night, with our bed clothes intending to sleep at the foot of the snow, and to set out at day break, hoping to arrive before clouds should collect.—A storm of snow made us return, as we were averse to go on without having some more opportunity of looking about us. We set out this morning at 5h. 15m. and arrived on the crest of the pass, at 8h. 20m. having had a very pleasant travel, the latter part of which, was over snow quite hard, and the ascent not too steep. We found all the streams frozen, and the thermometer before the sun rose was at 27°.

We spent four hours on the ridge, looking at the wondrous scene before us, which however, to the southward, was a little cloudy. To the north it was beautifully clear, and we had a grand view of the Peaks, trans-Suttulj, and saw the valley of the Buspa, with other things.—I made some angles sufficient to fix the pass, and we looked at the thermometer which mounted to 70° in the sun, tho' it was most commonly 58° (and 36° in the shade.) i.e. at 11 a. m. And we boiled again very unexceptionably and at our ease, and found it to be 187° 0'. Thermometer in the air being 36, 6'. That is to say, on a part of the ridge, about 450 feet higher than the pass itself, where we had boiled before. And we eat our breakfast, consisting of cold tea and chupatties, thus forming the first breakfast party, that probably had ever taken place on the parent ridge of the Himalya mountains.

On calculating the pass, I find it to be 16,000 feet, or more: particulars you shall have, as I have the altitudes of two known peaks from it.—3° 48' each, there will not be much doubt. The ridge runs East 90° S., and W. 30° N. and to look down from the pass, you see a spur running out, forming a kind of amphitheatre, the bottom of which, seems a level plain of snow.—It was along this our path lay.—On the Northern face, you see a stream running East, joined by another, about 8 miles off from the S. E.—the united stream joining the Buspa, which seems to run W. N. W.—No forest is visible (tho' there is plenty I understand at the proper level.)—nothing but bare black rock, crowned with snow. We left the pass at 1h. 48m. and arrived here at 1h. 48. and here we are now sitting in the Bechohe, at 3 p. m. with heavy snow falling around us, and the ground quite white. I will write again from Poora, at the junction of the Buspa and Suttulj.—Your's, &c.

J. D. H.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The short Letter signed "An Old Madrassee" on the subject of Brevet Rank has been anticipated by the same argument used against its introduction into the Indian Army by several Writers, whose Letters have been already published.

The Poetic Communication signed "A Constant Reader" and purporting to have been written on seeing one of the Tombs of Calcutta very exemplary in St. John's Cathedral, is rather suited for private than public use, and might perhaps be more acceptable to the Lady herself than to the world.

Domestic Occurrences.

MARRIAGES.

At Barrackpore, on the 18th instant, by the Rev. Mr. Anderson, D. MacIntyre, Esq. of Calcutta, to Margaret, second Daughter of John Mackenzie, Esq. of Kincraig Ross-shire.

At Bangalore, on the 4th of November, by the Rev. W. Thomas, Daniel De Lisle, Esq. A. S. 2nd Regiment of Native Infantry, to Miss Catherine Eliza Tear.

BIRTHS.

At Berhampore, on the 18th instant, the Lady of Capt. R. C. Stevenson, of H. M.'s 59th Regiment, of a Daughter.

On the 8th instant, at Moorjapore, Tirhoot, the Lady of Abercromby Dick, Esq. of the Civil Service, of a Daughter.

DEATHS.

On the 11th instant, Mr. Charles Hodgkinson, aged 55.

On the 17th instant, departed this life, of a bowel complaint, after a lingering and suffering illness, Mr. Richard Storey, late-keeper of the Calcutta Goal. He died in calm resignation to the Divine Will, and with the certainty of having filled that responsible situation for a considerable time, with credit to himself and satisfaction to his superiors. He has left a widow and a large circle of friends, among whom may be justly mentioned the several Prisoners who were long under his charge, and to whom he ever behaved with humanity and kindness, to regret his mournful loss.

We have taken the following obituary notice from the Bombay Courier of the 27th of November:—

At Calcutta, on the 19th of October, in the 25th year of his age, Robert Gregory Morris, Esq. of the Civil Service of this Establishment, and eldest Son of John Morris, Esq. of Baker Street, London. For a considerable time immediately preceding his death, Mr. Morris had suffered from paroxysms of a painful disorder, but by which his general health was not much affected; of late they had been much less frequent and severe, which induced his Medical friends to hope for his permanent recovery. Their hopes, alas! were vain. After a short residence at Calcutta, where he went for the benefit of the voyage by sea, a train of new and alarming symptoms appeared, which added to a return of his former disorder, hurried him to the grave in the very prime of life, to the great affliction of his relations and friends. To great maturity of judgment, a cultivated mind, and very promising talents, were joined in this excellent young man, a most amiable disposition and affable and engaging manners. As a dutiful and affectionate son, a kind and gentle brother, a warm and sincere friend, an agreeable and instructive companion, he shone conspicuous; as well as for every estimable quality that can add ornament or dignity to human nature. It was the rare but happy fortune of Mr. Morris, to make every acquaintance a friend, and he has left behind him a most numerous and respectable circle, who sincerely lament his loss, and will never cease to remember him with affection.

Shipping Intelligence.

CALCUTTA ARRIVALS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Dec. 18	Briton	British	J. Brodie	Sumatra	Nov. 12
18	Indiana	British	J. Pearl	P. of W. I.	Nov. 17

CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Dec. 16	Fatty Salem	Arab	Aboker	Malabar Coast
17	Abberton	British	L. Percival	England
17	Ceneus	British	H. Smith	Madras
17	Mary Ann	British	J. Williams	Madras
18	Catherine	British	G. Banfield	Colombo
18	Mary	British	J. Elises	Colombo
19	Almorah	British	T. Winter	England
19	Westmoreland	British	J. Cairie	Liverpool